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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1-Mr. Conrad
1-Mr. Jevons
1-Mr. Gallagher
1-Mr. Frazier
1-Office, Rm. 7133

Tyson
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Mohr
Sullivan
Tolson
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: 7/2/64

FROM : R. H. Jevons

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY; 11/22/63; DALLAS, TEXAS

Mr. Norman Redlich of the President's Commission telephoned today and advised that he had before him a draft of an article to be published by the "Readers Digest" in the near future which included the use of neutron activation analyses on the paraffin casts taken of Oswald's cheek and hand for gunpowder residues.

He advised that he knew that the FBI Laboratory had sent a letter to the Commission covering the results of work that the Laboratory had done in this matter but he could not find it at that time. I provided him with the date of the letter and read it to him upon his request.

This letter, dated 3/10/64, advised that the paraffin casts from Oswald were examined by neutron activation analyses at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Research Reactor Site, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and that the analyses were made to determine if the casts bore any primer deposits from the rifle cartridge cases found in the Dallas School Book Depository Building following the President's assassination. The letter advised in essence that the deposits found on the paraffin casts of the hand and cheek of Oswald could not be specifically associated with the rifle cartridges since the same elements were found in residues both from the rifle cartridge cases and the revolver cartridge cases which were fired from Oswald's revolver reportedly between the time of the assassination and the time of his apprehension. In view of the fact that the paraffin casts were not made until after the reported firing and handling of the revolver, no significance could be attached to the residues found on the casts other than the conclusion that barium and antimony (the elements found in the residues) are present in amounts greater than would be expected to be found on the hands of an individual who has not recently handled a fired weapon.

After reading the letter to him, Mr. Redlich advised that the Commission may want a deposition concerning these findings but he would consider it further and advise the Bureau.

ACTION: For information.

NOT RECORDED
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1-Mr. Belmont
1-Mr. Rosen
1-Mr. Sullivan
1-Mr. Malley
1-Mr. DeLoach

RHJ:fch (11)

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